

UNOFFICIAL —
DO NOT ENTER

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 2224-142P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Y. NAKANISHI et al.
SERIAL NO: 09/145,987 GROUP: 1623
FILED: September 3, 1998 EXAMINER: E. WHITE
FOR: CELLULOSE ACETATE AND DOPE CONTAINING THE SAME

Proposed AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 27, 2001

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 27, 2001, the period for response being extended two months to January 27, 2002, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with this application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 19 and 21, and amend the remaining claims to read:

1. (four times amended) A cellulose acetate compound obtained by the reaction of a cellulose, which may contain a hemicellulose, with acetic anhydride substantially free from a polybasic carboxylic acid in the presence of a sulfuric acid catalyst and having at least one feature selected from the

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

TERRELL C. BIRCH
 RAYMOND C. STEWART
 JOSEPH A. KOLASCH
 JAMES M. SLATTERY
 BERNARD L. SWEENEY*
 MICHAEL K. MUTTER
 CHARLES GORENSTEIN
 GERALD M. MURPHY, JR.
 LEONARD R. SVENSSON
 ANDREW D. WEIKLE
 MARC S. WEINER
 JOE MCKINNEY MUNCY
 ROBERT J. KENNEY
 JOHN W. BAILEY
 MARK J. NUELLE, PH.D.
 JAMES T. ELLER, JR.
 D. RICHARD ANDERSON

OF COUNSEL:
 HERBERT M. BIRCH (1905-1996)
 ELLIOT A. GOLDBERG*
 WILLIAM L. GATES*
 EDWARD H. VALANCE
 RUPERT J. BRADY (REY.)
 F. PRINCE BUTLER
 FRED S. WHISENHUNT
 JAMES W. HELLWEGE

*ADMITTED TO A BAR OTHER THAN VA.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
 8110 GATEHOUSE ROAD
 SUITE 500 EAST
 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042-1210
 USA

(703) 205-8000

FAX: (703) 205-8050
 (703) 698-8590 (G IV)

e-mail: mailroom@bskb.com
 web: http://www.bskb.com

CALIFORNIA OFFICE
 COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA

SCOTT L. LOWE
 PAUL C. LEWIS
 RICHARD J. GALLAGHER
 JAYNE M. SAYDAH*
 MARYANNE ARMSTRONG, PH.D.
 KECIA J. REYNOLDS
 ROBERT L. SCOTT, II
 KALPANA REDDY
 MARK E. OLDS
 ESTHER H. CHONG
 CATHERINE M. VOISINET*
 EUGENE T. PEREZ

REG. PATENT AGENTS:
 FREDERICK R. HANDREN
 MAKI HATSUMI
 CRAIG A. McROBBIE
 GARTH M. DAHLEN, PH.D.
 ROBERT E. GOOZNER, PH.D.
 KRISTI L. RUPERT, PH.D.
 MATTHEW T. SHANLEY
 SUSAN W. GORMAN, PH.D.
 DAVID J. CHO
 ROBERT W. DOWNS

703 746 5093

TO: EXAMINER WHITE voice 703 308 4621

FROM: RICHARD GALLAGHER
 voice (703) 205-8008

Examiner White —

Please call me about this
 Amendment — do you see
 any problems? Will it
 make the case allowable.

Thanks,

Rich Gallagher
 (703) 205-8008

MAIL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 747, FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA, USA 22040-0747

Received from < > at 1/8/02 4:08:38 PM [Eastern Standard Time]